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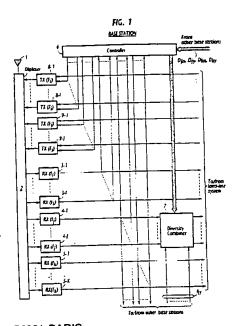
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(54) Cellular mobile communications system using frequencies commonly shared by neighboring cells for handoff operations.

In a cellular mobile communication system, each base station is allocated common frequencies shared with other base stations in addition to unique frequencies. One of the unique frequencies is assigned by a base station to a mobile terminal in response to a call request. The field strength of a signal from that mobile terminal is detected and one of the common frequencies is assigned to it if the detected field strength becomes lower than a threshold. The base station receives afield strength signal from a neighboring station indicating the field strength of a version of the signal at the neighboring station and compares it with a threshold, and combines the signal of that mobile terminal with the version of the signal received by an relayed from the neighboring station when the field strength of that version of the signal is higher than the threshold. At the given mobile station, a signal from the base station which assigned the common frequency is combined with a signal from the neighboring station. In a modification, the field strength of signals from surrounding base stations is detected by mobile terminals and a start-of-diversity-mode request is transmitted when the field strength of one of the surrounding stations is higher than a threshold and an end-of-diversity-mode request signal is transmitted when the field strength of such a surrounding station is lower than the threshold. The base station responds to these requests for effecting diversity reception.

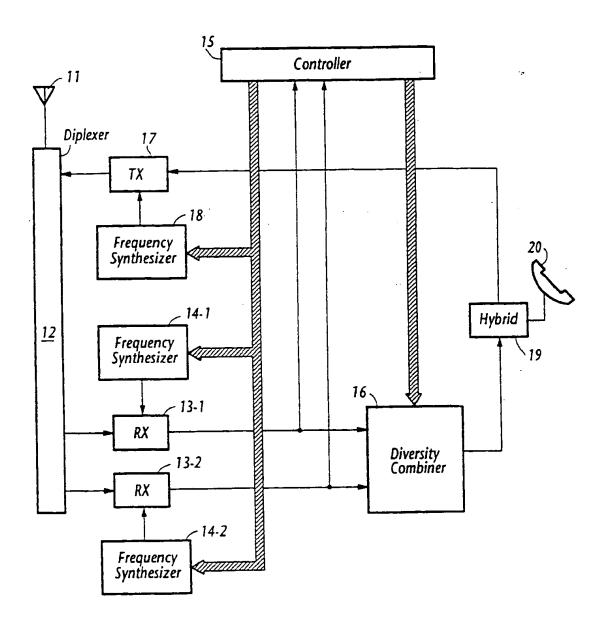


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FIG. 2

MOBILE STATION





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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